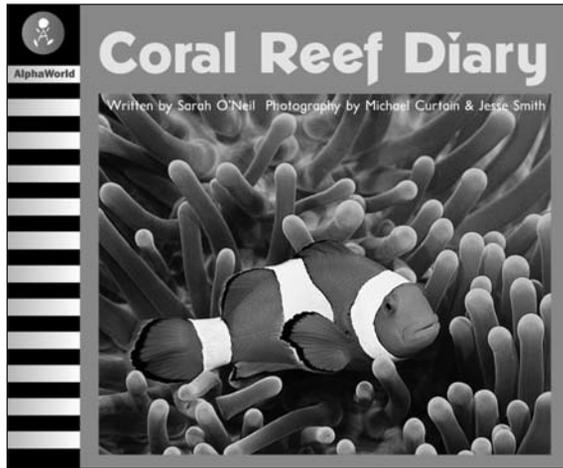


## Coral Reef Diary



**Topic:** Sea/Animal Kingdom/Environment

**Curriculum link:** Natural Science

**Text type:** Diary

**Reading level:** 16

**Word count:** 595

**Vocabulary:** anemones, coral reef, flippers, poisonous, polyps, rainforest, reproducing, snorkelling, tentacles, underwater observatory

**Possible literacy focus:**

- Identifying the features of a diary entry.
- Identifying words that are used to indicate that the text is written in the first person.
- Identifying words with /gr/and /sn/blends.
- Understanding scientific vocabulary used in the book: anemones, coral reef, flippers, mask, poisonous, polyps, reproducing, snorkelling, tentacles, underwater observatory.

## Follow-up activities

### Understanding text structure – Recount diary

Explore the structure of a recount diary with the children. Recounts retell past experiences. They have a beginning, followed by a series of events and then a conclusion, which may be a personal comment. *Coral Reef Diary* is structured as a diary with dated entries.

Write the following chart on the board. Fill in the chart with the children to show them how this text is structured.

Recount
Beginning – 21st November:
Events 22nd November:
23rd November: (etc.)
Conclusion

### Map orientation

Ask the children to reread page 2.

*Where is Green Island?*

*Where is the Great Barrier Reef?*

Place a large map of Australia on the board for all the children to see. Point out the Great Barrier Reef. Show the children pictures of the Great Barrier Reef and the animals that live there.

Discuss the pictures and ask:

*If you visited the reef, what would you like to see there?*

*Why would you like to see that?*

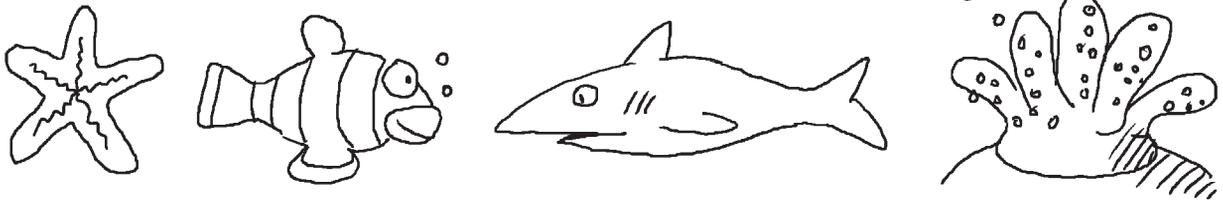
### Who am I?

Write the names of the different animals from the book onto cards: bird, coral, sea cucumber, sea star, crown-of-thorns starfish, moray eel, clown fish, reef shark. One child selects a card from the pack. The child looks at the card and then provides the other children with clues about the animal. Whoever guesses correctly is the next person to pick a card from the pack.

# Diary writing

You will need:  
paper, pencils

1. Imagine that you are staying at the Great Barrier Reef.
2. Write a diary about your holiday.
3. Read other books about the reef.
4. What did you see? Write about it all.
5. Share your diary with a friend.



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# Holiday time

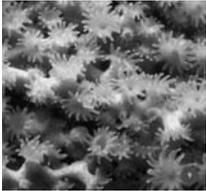
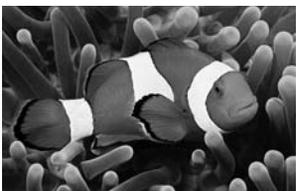
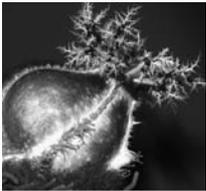
You will need:  
paper, pencil, large piece of paper, felt pens, crayons,  
coloured pencils, paint

1. Imagine that you are organising a holiday to the Great Barrier Reef.
2. Make a list of the things that you want to see.
3. Make a poster of these places.
4. Draw pictures and add labels.
5. Talk to another person and tell them all about your exciting holiday.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

# Coral reef

Write facts about these pictures from the Great Barrier Reef.

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**Instructions** Ask the children to write about each picture. Remind children to use the book Coral Reef Diary as a reference.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

# On location

Imagine that you are going to make a video about your favourite place. Draw the things that you would like to video, then write about them.

<b>Drawings for my video</b>	<b>Writing about my video</b>